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PTO/SB/21 (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/659,821-Conf. #5939
	Filing Date	September 11, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Jamal Benbrahim
	Art Unit	3713
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	29757/P-753

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): One document cited on the PTO/SB/08 form
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Gregory E. Stanton		
Date	November 7, 2006	Reg. No.	45,127

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: November 7, 2006

Signature: (Gregory E. Stanton)



Application No. (if known): 10/659,821

Attorney Docket No.: 29757/P-753

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PTO SB/08 Form
1 document cited on the PTO/SB/08 Form (2 pages)



Australian Government

IP Australia

Discovery House, Phillip ACT 2606

PO Box 200, Woden ACT 2606

Australia

Phone +61 -2 6283 2999

Facsimile +61 -2 6283 7999

www.ipaustralia.gov.au

25 October 2006

Blake Dawson Waldron Patent Services
Level 37
Grosvenor Place
225 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Australia

Your Ref: DGC DCW 02 1373 6726

Examiner's first report on patent application no. 2004206977
by IGT

Last proposed amendment no.

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am replying to the request for examination. I have based this report on the pamphlet. I have examined the application and I believe that there are lawful grounds of objection to the application. These grounds of objection are:

1. There is no Notice of Entitlement on file. You will need to file one because an application without a Notice of Entitlement cannot be accepted.
2. The application cannot proceed under Part 2 of Chapter 8 of the Patents Act 1990 because the basic document has not been filed.
3. Independent claims 1, 17-18 and 35 are not clear because the term "file" has been used inconsistently with the description. From comparison of the invention as described and the claims it is assumed that the term "file" is intended to be the term "script file".
4. The invention defined in independent claims 1, 17-18 and 35 does not involve an inventive step when compared with the state of the common general knowledge in the art.

The problem addressed by the current application is as per the description page 1 lines 22-24. "If it is desired to change the configuration of the gaming machines (for example, to modify video displayed on, or audio generated by, the gaming machine), the program in the high-level programming language must be modified."

The person skilled in the art in this instance would clearly be a software engineer with experience in gaming machine software.

The following is common general knowledge in the art:

- compiling code from multiple files together will require linking
- scripts can be used to combine and execute multiple sections of separately compiled code
- gaming industry regulations with regard to computer code verification

DATA ENTERED

27/10/06 *RS*

Therefore the person skilled in the art would directly and without difficulty, by routine steps, arrive at a solution which is the same as the claimed solution, and therefore the claimed invention lacks an inventive step.

5. Furthermore, it is considered that the features added by appended claims 2-16 and 19-34 relate to arrangements that are merely matters of design choice when the general technical knowledge about the state of the art is used and therefore cannot contribute to providing a patentable inventive step.

I apologise for any inconvenience resulting from your request for examination not being considered within the time limit set out in our Customer Service Charter.

You have 21 months from the date of this report to overcome all my objection(s) otherwise your application will lapse.

You will need to pay a monthly fee for any response you file after 12 months from the date of the first report.

You will also need to pay any annual continuation fees that apply. These will normally be first due five years from the filing date. Please note however that earlier commencement dates apply for divisional applications.

Information about fees may be obtained by phoning 1300 651010.

Yours faithfully,



TIM GILLETT
Patent Examination B5
Telephone contact
Sunil Kaul
Phone: (02) 6283 2182